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Amendments to the Claims:

1-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~ 6, wherein the control code comprises part of an EPG or ECG.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) ~~The A method of claim 3, wherein of~~
configuring and using a universal remote, the method comprising:

enabling a user to specify to a server on the internet at least one apparatus to be controlled by the universal remote which universal remote has a touch screen GUI, the server on the internet including a database of code sets, each apparatus having a corresponding dedicated remote with a control panel;

enabling the server on the internet to identify a control code corresponding to each specified apparatus and to provide the control code as data in a mark-up language format;

providing each identified control code over the internet to a home network, the mark-up language format control code including (1) a code set representative of commands to control a state of the specified apparatus and (2) code to control the touch screen GUI to display a graphical representation of the control panel of the dedicated remote of the specified apparatus including icons and soft keys;

the control code not being usable by the specified apparatus until the control code is converted into commands and transmitted to the apparatus by an IR or RF transmission independent of the internet, wherein the apparatus is not preconfigured to deliver or cause delivery of its respective control code to the control device;

enabling the universal remote to convert the control code into (1) the associated commands to control the specified apparatus and (2) ~~the GUI panel displayed on the touch screen GUI comprises a~~ the soft keys and the graphical representation of the icons on the touch screen GUI of ~~[[a]]~~ the universal remote

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~~control device~~ which depict the control panel of the dedicated remote corresponding to the specified apparatus;

using the soft keys of the displayed control panel on the touch screen GUI to enable the universal remote to send commands to the specified apparatus via the IR or RF transmission.

7-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A remote control device, ~~comprising;~~
~~the device being~~ configured for receiving a control code set from a source over a
bidirectional data network, the control code set comprising data in a language format,
the ~~control set including a~~ control code representative of (1) commands for ~~an a~~
5 selected apparatus and (2) soft key positions and icons for control keys of a dedicated
remote corresponding to the selected apparatus ~~a GUI element for the apparatus;~~

a GUI display panel on which the soft keys and icons are rendered;
the remote control device being configured to convert the GUI element
into a graphical representation on the GUI display panel depicting [[a]] the dedicated
10 remote ~~control~~ for the selected apparatus for selecting at least one of the commands
for the apparatus such that when a user switches between the remote control device
and the dedicated remote, the control keys have the same position and function;

the remote control device being configured to convert the control code
from a form that is not usable on the apparatus to be controlled into a command that is
15 usable by the apparatus to change a state of the apparatus; and

a transmitter converting the at least one selected command into an IR
or RF signal which is transmitted to control the selected apparatus.

15. (Currently Amended) A memory storing a database,
comprising:

control codes for controlling apparatuses through remote control
devices, the control codes representative of commands suitable for by the remote
5 control devices to the apparatuses over an IR or RF network and being formatted in a
mark-up language, the database being in communication over a bidirectional data

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network with a plurality home network systems each of which comprises at least a remote control device, the control codes being deliverable to the remote control devices independent of the controlled apparatuses, the control codes being described in XML format with XML tags which define (1) control parameters including one or more of: carrier frequency, duty cycle, protocol type, repetition type, on/off times of the signal and bit pattern of command codes and (2) at least one of: a type of the controlled apparatus and a brand name of the controlled apparatus .

10 16. (Currently Amended) A ~~control code stored on a~~ machine readable memory on which code is stored ~~medium~~ for controlling ~~[[of]]~~ CE equipment and for being supplied in an XML format, the control code (1) representing an IR or RF signal for transmission by a remote control device to the CE equipment and (2) rendering a control key layout that emulates a key layout of a dedicated control device for the CE equipment.

17. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
enabling each of a plurality of users to specify to a server, over a bidirectional data network, a user specified apparatus for being controlled by a universal control device of a user; ~~and~~
5 enabling the server to identify XML tags that specify control codes included in data in a ~~mark-up~~ XML language format, the control codes being representative of control codes for controlling the user specified apparatus and sending instructions for rendering icons and soft buttons which emulate control key of a remote control for the specified apparatus; and
10 enabling the server to communicate over the bidirectional data network with a home network that comprises the user's control device for delivery of the control codes to the control device, wherein the control codes are not directly usable by the specified apparatus until conversion of the control codes by the home network into commands that can be sent by the control device to the specified apparatus
15 independent of the bidirectional network.

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18. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
providing control codes in an XML mark-up language format to a
home network comprising a control device for installation on the control device, a
first set of control codes ~~being part of an EPG or ECG with rendering instructions for~~
5 rendering a graphical representation on a GUI touch screen using an XSL style sheet,
and a second set of control codes representing commands suitable for transmission by
the control device over an IR or RF network to a CE equipment to control the state of
the CE equipment, the control codes being provided from a database over a
bidirectional data network to the home network, wherein the equipment is not pre-
10 configured to deliver or cause delivery of its respective control code to the control
device.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the
language format includes a mark-up language.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the
bidirectional network includes the internet and the source is located on the internet
and remote from the apparatus and the network.

22. (Previously Presented) The database of claim 15, wherein the
bidirectional network includes the internet, the plurality of home networks each being
connected with the internet to receive control codes requested from the database over
the internet.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the
bidirectional network includes the internet, the user specifying the apparatus to be
controlled over the internet to the server, which server is remote from and not a part

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of the home network or the specified apparatus, and the control code is sent via the
5 internet to the home network to the controlled device.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the database is remote from and not a part of the home network and not a part of the CE equipment.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the bidirectional network includes the internet, the control codes being sent over the internet from the database to the home network.

27-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, ~~wherein the mark up language format data includes a GUI element, the method~~ further including:
~~from the~~ on a touch screen GUI display element, generating a graphical representation depicting ~~[[a]] the remote control device~~ for the specified apparatus.

30. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein ~~the mark up language format codes include a third set including a GUI element which represent wherein the rendering instructions render~~ a graphical representation ~~[[of]]~~
on a remote controller for the CE equipment which is to be controlled, the graphical
5 representation being displayed on a touch screen such that the user can select among the control codes by touching the touch screen.

31. (New) The memory of claim 15, wherein the control codes further include:

a definition of a GUI display panel and soft key locations which when rendered on the GUI display panel display icons and buttons in the same position and with a common function as a dedicated remote for the controlled apparatus.